

REFLECTIONS ON THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION'S EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL FORUM

July 24, 2024

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

The International Development Association (IDA) convened its Europe and Central Asia Regional Forum in Sarajevo on July 24, 2024, as part of a global series to gather civil society input on the IDA21 replenishment package. Bosnia and Herzegovina's journey from IDA recipient to IDA donor following its devastating war in the 1990s made it a great location for this final regional forum.

Coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the IDA and UNESCO-reconstructed Mostar Old Bridge, a symbol of resilience and international cooperation, the forum emphasized the importance of partnership and locally-led development, as well as IDA's crucial role in Bosnia and Herzegovina's progress.

Participants welcomed the concept of a "Better World Bank," emphasizing the need for a more efficient, agile organization capable of effectively addressing global challenges. National and international civil society organizations present at the meeting expressed a strong willingness to partner on these efforts.

Following a presentation of IDA21's strategic directions, civil society organizations provided feedback on the strategy and its priorities. More than 40 online submissions can be categorized into the following areas:

- a) Climate Change
- b) Economic Development
- c) Social Justice and Equality
- d) Peace
- e) Democracy

What should be the main priority of IDA?

42 responses



Tajikistan and Bosnia and Herzegovina shared their perspectives as IDA recipients and emerging donors, respectively. Participants underscored the importance of robust monitoring, evaluation, and accountability mechanisms to prevent corruption and maximize impact.

The forum concluded by identifying compelling reasons for countries to support IDA21.

Why countries should support IDA?

13 responses

- Give back
- Help to reduce international inequalities
- Because we can give back
- philanthropy
- Integrity, Leverage and Impact
- We all live on one planet
- Solidarity
- Solidarity
- Partnership is the name of the game 😊
- When you lift all boats, everyone gains
- Solidarity
- we need collective, systemic answers to increasingly complex